

CLASSIFICATION **SECRET**COUNTRY East Germany REPORTTOPIC 1. Fall exercise of the 12th Gds Tank Div2. Fall Exercise of the 6th Gds Mecz Div

EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 13 October 1955

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) This is UNEVALUATED Information 25X1

1. In the early morning on 1 October 1955, 8 M-13 rocket launchers, 12 x 122-mm field howitzers, 3 x 95-mm AA guns, 2 x 37-mm AA guns, approximately 20 armored personnel carriers and some 120 trucks were seen ready to depart near Friedrich Franz Kaserne (2201) in Neuruppin. Between 0610 and 0715, 12 M-13 rocket launchers, 2 x 85-mm AA guns, 2 x 37-mm AA guns, 25 radio trucks, some 40 trucks with soldiers carrying full field equipment, 2 sidecar motorcycles, 3 ambulances and 7 field kitchens were seen en route from Neuruppin toward the Wittstock training grounds. Between 0900 and noon on 2 October, heavy artillery fire was heard from the direction of the Wittstock training grounds. Between 1400 and 1700, several small columns of trucks with individual heavy weapons were seen en route from the direction of the Wittstock training grounds to Neuruppin. Between 1930 and 2030, 4 x 37-mm AA guns, 63 armored personnel carriers, 4 BA-64 armored scout cars, 18 sidecar motorcycles, 7 jeeps, 5 sedans, approximately 177 trucks including some with soldiers and ammunition, 12 tank trucks and 22 field kitchens went in the same direction. In the evening of 3 October, the number of windows lighted indicated that the barracks installation of the Neuruppin post were heavily occupied.¹

2. At noon on 29 September, 7 tanks, 1 SP gun, 1 light AA gun, 6 armored personnel carriers, 8 trucks, 1 field kitchen and 2 boxcarloads of soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets were entrained at the Eberswalde railroad station. A second shipment of 10 JS tanks, 1 armored personnel carrier, 3 radio trucks, 2 tank trucks, 2 trucks and 1 field kitchen was loaded at 1700. Eight SP guns and several trucks and sedans were reportedly entrained at 0900.

3. On 29 September, the following shipments from the Artillerie Kaserne (4341) in Eberswalde were loaded at the railroad station: First shipment: 11 SP guns; second shipment: 10 JS-3 tanks; third shipment: according to noises heard, presumably additional tanks. On 30 September, 5 T-34 tanks and trucks from the Schuetzen Kaserne (4342) in Eberswalde were loaded. On 30 September and 1 October, 5 columns with a total of 10 x 122-mm howitzers, 9 x 85-mm AT guns, 13 x 57-mm AT guns, 15 x 120-mm mortars, approximately 35 armored personnel carriers, 170 trucks and some 2,500 soldiers left the Artillerie Kaserne. On 3 October, the installation was unoccupied and dark after nightfall. At 0600 on 4 October, traffic control posts were seen in Eberswalde and at the cemetery.

CLASSIFICATION **SECRET**

SECRET

25X1

SECRET

- 2 -

4. On 29 September, 12 JS tanks, several armored personnel carriers and trucks were loaded at the Eberswalde railroad station and left toward Britz at 1800. At 1830 on 30 September, additional tanks, AT guns, armored personnel carriers and trucks were loaded at the Eberswalde railroad station. In the evening, 2 x 37-mm AA guns, approximately 8 armored personnel carriers, motorcycles and trucks were ready to depart from the Artillery Kaserne (4342) in Eberswalde.
5. At 1700 on 29 September, 10 T-34/85 tanks, 2 heavy SP guns, 5 armored personnel carriers, sidecar motorcycles, trucks, 3 repair shop trucks, 1 field kitchen and some 200 soldiers were entrained at the Bad Freienwalde railroad station. Additional loadings took apparently place at 1430 on 30 September. During the night of 29/30 September, several major columns with armored personnel carriers, motorcycles, trucks, tank trucks and soldiers left the Panzer Kaserne (4002) in Bad Freienwalde toward Eberswalde. In the evening of 30 September, the Panzer Kaserne was only lightly occupied.²

25X1

1. [] Comment. The information quite definitely indicates that, in the morning of 1 October, artillery and wheeled elements of the 12th Gds Tank Div left for the Wittstock training grounds for fall exercises. First return shipments arrived at the post in the evening of 2 October. It is believed that source was not able to observe the departure of the armored elements, which are quartered in the Fridericus Kaserne (2205) at the northern perimeter of the town of Neuruppin. Judging from the number of windows lighted in the evening of 3 October, the exercises had apparently terminated.

25X1

2. [] Comment. According to paragraph 2 of the present report, the units of the 6th Gds Mecz Div, which left by road and rail between 29 September and 1 October, were transferred to the Templin training grounds for fall exercises. [] Although no pertinent information has been received so far, it is assumed that the units of the division from Bernau participated. The observation of traffic control posts in Eberswalde on 4 October tends to indicate that the exercise terminated on 3 October and that the units subsequently returned to their posts. The observation of 10 x 122-mm field howitzers and 15 x 120-mm mortars leaving the Artillery Kaserne in Eberswalde confirms the previous assumption that the mortar regiment of the mechanized divisions are equipped with field howitzers as well as mortars.

25X1

25X1

SECRET

25X1

SECRET

25X1